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RE: WIC Update February 15

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**From:** Wayne, Kathleen A (HSS)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2013 3:00 PM  
**To:** HSS DPA WIC Coordinators; 'Julie Serstad'; [susan.hennon@searhc.org](mailto:susan.hennon@searhc.org); Kathy O'Gara; [kari.natwick@searhc.org](mailto:kari.natwick@searhc.org)  
**Cc:** HSS DPA WIC Juneau; HSS DPA WIC Anchorage; Olejasz, Aimee M (HSS); 'Danielle Rybicki'  
**Subject:** WIC Update February 15

Happy Valentine's Day-After,

We enjoyed a wonderful High Tea luncheon yesterday organized by Dana Kent. We hope you enjoyed your Valentine's Day and would love to see pictures of clinics who had special activities or decorations—any fun bulletin boards?

The WIC State Offices will be closed on Monday, February 18, in observance of President's Day.

Take care,  
Kathleen

1. WIC Coordinator Vacancies:
  - Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp—contact Kathy O'Gara 907 966-8736
  - Bristol Bay Area Health Corp— contact Suzy Nunn 907 842-2036 [snunn@bbahc.org](mailto:snunn@bbahc.org) or go to BBAHC's job posting webpage at <http://www.bbahc.org/vacancies.html>
  - North Slope Borough-contact Julie Serstad 907-852-0366.
  - Armed Services YMCA of Alaska –contact Mari Jo Imig 907 552-9622.
2. SPIRIT Newsletter 2—see attached
3. Problem with Warrant Dates---Due to a glitch in AKWIC, some warrants are printing with a last date to use of 31 days and last date to deposit exceeding the 60 day limit. As a result, some of our larger chain stores with registers that auto-calculate a warrant's date range, clients have been turned away at the check stand. AC alerted us to this problem, and Safeway, Wal-Mart and Fred Meyer and others may also experience this problem. In the case of the AC register, the cashier enters the start date and the computerized register noted that the 30 days had already elapsed, though the warrant stated it was still good for another day. If you receive a call from a client who is unable to cash a check on their last day or two, please make arrangements for another check.

Those checks redeemed beyond the allowable 30 day timelines are being rejected by Key Bank as stale dated. We have asked Key Bank to allow a couple extra days for deposits. Should vendors contact LAs concerning their bank not accepting or rejecting these warrants, please provide the vendor with a copy of the attached form, so they can receive special processing from Key Bank. Please refer any vendor questions to [Alice.Albrecht@alaska.gov](mailto:Alice.Albrecht@alaska.gov) or 465-8630. Our IT staff is working on this issue, but until it's resolved some clients have three months with incorrect use-by dates.

- 4. Gerber Infant Foods--- the State was informed by Kroger that Gerber infant cereals are changing to a new plastic packaging and, in the transition, some Alaska stores will have limited stock of these infant cereals until the new shipments arrive in March. AIRSA, the MOV contractor, is prepared for this shortage and should not be affected. Please work with your clients and vendors to let them know about the possibilities of a product shortage.

#### NICE TO KNOW



### 2013 Summer Food Service Program Webinar Series

**Join Our Webinars and Learn How You Can Help Feed Hungry Children During the Summer**

To learn more about the Summer Food Service Program, please [register here](#) to participate in one of our upcoming free webinar sessions:

\*\*\*All webinars will take place at the following times:

2:00pm - 3:00pm EST 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST 12:00pm - 1:00pm MST 11:00am - 12:00pm

PST

- **February 20 (Wednesday)** - How Your Organization Can Help Feed Hungry Children This Summer
  - **February 27 (Wednesday)**- How Faith-Based Organizations Can Feed Hungry Children This Summer
  - **March 8 (Friday)** - Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer - Getting State Elected Officials Involved
  - **March 13 (Wednesday)** - Summer Food Service Program - Alimenta a los Niños en el Verano (en español)
  - **March 20 (Wednesday)** - Already a CACFP Site? Then Become a SFSP Site Too
  - **March 27 (Wednesday)** - Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer - Getting Local Elected Officials Involved
  - **April 3 (Wednesday)** - Addressing the Summer Food Transportation Challenge
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### Why Summer Food Is So Important

The USDA provides free or reduced price lunches to 22 million children during the school year through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). However, during summer break only 3 million of those students participate in a USDA summer feeding program. You can be a game-changer by feeding more children nutritious meals during the summer and lowering the risk of hunger.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally funded program administered by the States that helps fill the summer meal gap for low-income children by reimbursing organizations that serve children meals at feeding sites during summer months. Schools, churches, recreation centers, playgrounds, parks, and camps can provide summer meals in neighborhoods with high percentages of low-income families, making a positive impact on the lives of hungry children. These summer food sites are safe and familiar locations where children naturally gather during the summer.

The USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is offering free webinars on SFSP, so you can learn more about how you can help your community feed children in need. The webinars will review SFSP participation requirements, cover resources and tools available to help you get started, highlight successful programs and outreach practices from around the country, and provides an opportunity to have your questions answered by FNS Program experts.

To register for any of our webinars, [click here!](#)

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To learn more about the Summer Food Service Program, please visit:  
[www.summerfood.usda.gov](http://www.summerfood.usda.gov)  
or watch this short video in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)

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